

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07
IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05
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R 061000Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 505
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CSCE, SHUM, SW, UR
SUBJECT: CSCE: THE AGAPOV CASE; CRITICISM OF GOS DISSEMINATION OF
HELSINKI FINAL ACT

REF: STOCKHOLM 975 (NOTAL)

1. THE WIDELY PUBLICIZED FAMILY REUNIFICATION CASE
CONCERNING VALENTIN AGAPOV AND HIS EFFORTS OVER THE LAST
TWO-AND-A-HALF YEARS TO CONVINCE SOVIET AUTHORITIES TO
ISSUE EXIT VISAS FOR HIS WIFE, DAUGHTER AND MOTHER IS
ONCE AGAIN IN THE NEWS. THE PRESS ON MAY 5 REPORTED
THAT MORE THAN 22,000 SWEDES HAVE SIGNED A PETITION TO
BE SENT TO BREZHNEV ON MAY 16 APPEALING FOR THE AGAPOV
FAMILY'S RELEASE. COPIES OF THE PETITION, WHICH IS
BEING COORDINATED BY VARIOUS CHURCH GROUPS IN SWEDEN,
ARE TO BE SENT TO ALL CSCE SIGNATORY GOVERNMENTS, AS WELL
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AS TO THEIR UN AMBASSADORS. THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
AND THE UN ITSELF WILL ALSO RECEIVE COPIES. AN ACCOMPANYING
LETTER TO SECRETARY VANCE, ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, WILL
ASK THAT HE RAISE THE AGAPOV CASE WITH GROMYKO WHEN THEY
MEET IN GENEVA ON MAY 18.

2. MFA OFFICIALS WORKING ON FAMILY REUNIFICATION CASES

WITH SOVIET AND EASTERN EUROPEAN AUTHORITIES CONFIRM THAT THE AGAPOV CASE IS BY FAR THE MOST PUBLICIZED AND, THEREFORE, MOST DIFFICULT IN TERMS OF PUBLIC RELATIONS. FOREIGN MINISTER SODER HAS REPEATED SEVERAL TIMES IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE IN ITS VARIOUS CONTACTS WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS TO GAIN THE FAMILY'S RELEASE. VALENTIN AGAPOV, WHO DEFECTED WHILE IN SWEDEN IN 1974, WAS APPARENTLY STRIPPED OF HIS SOVIET CITIZENSHIP LAST MONTH. ACCORDING TO MFA OFFICIALS, IT IS STILL NOT CLEAR HOW THIS STEP WILL AFFECT THE FAMILY'S CHANCES FOR AN EVENTUAL REUNIFICATION.

3. FOREIGN MINISTER SODER ON MAY 3 DEFENDED THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO GIVE WIDE DISSEMINATION TO SWEDEN TO THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT. RESPONDING TO AN INTERPELLATION IN THE RIKSDAG BY A COMMUNIST MP, SODER INDICATED THAT MORE THAN 30,000 COPIES OF THE FULL TEXT OF THE FINAL ACT, BOTH IN ENGLISH AND SWEDISH TRANSLATION, HAD BEEN DISTRIBUTED SINCE OCTOBER 1975, AND THAT OTHER EDITIONS WILL BE PUBLISHED IF DEMAND REQUIRES. A SPECIAL EDITION OF THE FINAL ACT AND OTHER CSCE MATERIALS WILL BE PUBLISHED JUST BEFORE THE BELGRADE FOLLOW-UP MEETING BEGINS ON JUNE 15, ACCORDING TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER. CONCLUDING HER STATEMENT IN THE RIKSDAG, SHE MADE IT CLEAR THAT AS IMPORTANT AS IT IS THAT PEOPLE IN ALL THE SIGNATORY STATES BE MADE AWARE OF THE FINAL ACT, THE GOS BELIEVES IT IS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAT THESE STATES LIVE UP TO THEIR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE HELSINKI DOCUMENT.

PERRY

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 06-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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